and women for the same work or work of a similar nature without any discrimination. This Act is implemented by the respective State Governments for the areas under their jurisdiction and monitored by the Central Government. The State Governments are also addressed from time to time to ensure strict compliance of the provisions of the Act. For the areas under the Central Governments, the Act is implemented by the office of Chief Labour Commissioner (Central). In addition, there is no discrimination in wages on gender basis under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. This Act provides for fixation and revision of minimum rates of wages in employments.

Social security to unemployed muslims

173. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken/propose to take steps to provide social security to the unemployed persons, most particularly the muslims, in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to cover all those who could not be provided employment within a specific period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (d) There is a dedicated Ministry *viz.* Ministry of Minority Affairs to look after the funding of programmes and projects for the welfare of minorities including unemployed muslims. This Ministry is also having the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation under its jurisdiction to finance schemes for the welfare of minorities.

The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 has been enacted to guarantee hundred days of employment in a year to any rural household including unemployed muslims.

A large number of benefits are extended under various social welfare schemes formulated by the Government for unemployed persons including muslims. Whilst formulating these welfare schemes, Government takes into account the needs and concerns of all the communities including the minorities.

Deteriorating condition of labourers working in unorganised sector

†174. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of labourers working in organised as well as unorganised sector separately in the country;

(b) whether his Ministry has made any assessment of the deteriorating condition of labourers in the unorganised sector; and

(c) if so, the measures being taken to improve the condition of labourers in unorgansied sector in the existing scheme?

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) According to the survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) in 2004-05, the total employment in both the organized and the unorganized sectors in the country was 45.9 crores. Of these workers, 43.3 crores were in the unorganized and 2.6 crores in organized sector. The National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector (NCEUS), set up by the Government, made an assessment of the conditions of workers in the unorganised sector.

(c) There are various schemes/programmes being implemented by the Government for improving the conditions of labourers in the unorganised sector. Some such schemes are: Swaranjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana; Sampoorna Grameen Rojgar Yojana; Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana; National Social Assistance Programme; etc. The Government also enacted National Rural Employment Guarantee Act which provides 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.

With a view to providing social security to unorganised sector workers, the Unorganised Sector Workers' Social Security Bill, 2007 has been introduced in Rajya Sabha on 10.09.2007.

The 'Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana' for BPL families in Unorganised Sector has been launched on 1st October, 2007. The unorganised sector worker and his family (unit of five) will be covered under the scheme. The total sum insured would be Rs. 30,000/- per familiy per annum on a family floater basis. The benefits under the scheme will start accruing from 1st April, 2008.

With a view to providing death and disability cover to rural landless households, the 'Aam Aadmi Bima Yojana' has been launched on 2nd October, 2007. Under the scheme, the head of the family or one earning member in the family will be insured. The Central Government will bear 50% of the permium of Rs. 200/- per year per person and the remaining 50% of the premium will be borne by State Government. The benefits under the scheme include Rs. 30,000 in case of mutual death; Rs. 75,000 in case of death due to accident or total permanent disability due to accident. In case of partial disability due to accident, the insurance cover would be Rs. 37,500/-. The children of beneficiaries of AABY studying in classes 9th to 12th standard are eligible to a scholarship @ Rs. 300/- per quarter per child.

Similarly, under the National Old Age Pension Scheme, all persons above the age of 65 years who belong to the household below the poverty line according to the criterion prescribed by Government of India are eligible for old age pension.

Children benefited under NCLP scheme

175. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pelased to state:

(a) the number of children benefited under National Child Labour Project (NCLP) schemes since 1988, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the member of families, so far covered under the poverty alleviation and income generation schemes;